

SENATE WATCH

A summary of today's Senate actions; published daily when the Senate is in session.

6/14/05

BUDGETS

SB 264 (Johnson)

Department of Agriculture budget

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- Brown 1A (2 amends) was adopted.
- Stamas 1B (11 amends) was adopted. \$960,000 for county fairs.
- BARCIA 1C (14 amends) was defeated. Restore \$500,000 for the Office of the Racing Commissioner.
- SB 264 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- BARCIA 1 (16 amends) was withdrawn.
- SB 264 passed [RC 236: 37 yes, 0 no].

SB 266 (Johnson)

Community Colleges budget

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- SB 266 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 266 passed [RC 238: 34 yes, 3 no].

SB 267 (Johnson)

Department of Community Health budget

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- Cropsey 1A (1 amend) was adopted. Recipients shall abstain from using controlled substances and narcotics.
- CHERRY 1B (10 amends) was defeated. Funding for MIChoice in-home health care for Medicaid recipients.
- EMERSON 1C (1 amend) was defeated. Tie-bar to SB 453 (Cassis): Earned income tax credit.
- CHERRY 1D (1 amend) was defeated. Require businesses which employ Medicaid recipients to pay premiums/copays/deductibles.
- CHERRY 1E (1 amend) was defeated. Remove the "personal responsibility agreement."
- CHERRY 1F (2 amends) was defeated. Very low income recipients would not have to pay premiums.
- CHERRY 1G (1 amend) was withdrawn. \$344,500 for in-home care for seniors.

- CHERRY 1H (9 amends) was withdrawn.
- CHERRY 1I (7 amends) was defeated.
- CHERRY 1J (9 amends) was withdrawn.
- BASHAM 1K (11 amends) was defeated. Point of difference for Wayne County CMH.
- CHERRY 1L (1 amend) was defeated.
- Garcia 1M (6 amends) was adopted.
- Stamas 1N (1 amend) was adopted.
- Stamas 10 (4 amends) was adopted. This lifts the cap on the MiChoice program, while cutting \$\$\$ from administration costs.
- Stamas 1P (14 amends) was adopted.
- Stamas 1Q (9 amends) was adopted.
- Stamas 1R (10 amends) was adopted.
- CHERRY 1S (1 amend) was adopted. Estate preservation program.
- Cropsey 1T (1 amend) was adopted.
- SB 267 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- EMERSON 1 (1 amend) was withdrawn. Tie-bar to SB 453 (Cassis): Earned income tax credit.
- BASHAM 2 (11 amends) was defeated [RC 228: 17 yes, 20 no]. Point of difference for Wayne County Mental Health board to help restore \$20 million in funding.
- CHERRY 3 (10 amends) was defeated.
- CHERRY 4-7 were withdrawn
- CHERRY 8 (9 amends) was defeated [RC 229: 18 yes, 19 no (gop)].
- CHERRY 9 (7 amends) was defeated [RC 230: 18 yes, 18 no (gop)]. Restore funding for senior staffing.
- CHERRY 10 (9 amends) was withdrawn.
- CHERRY 11 (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- CHERRY 12 (11 amends) was defeated [RC 231: 18 yes, 19 no (gop)]. This would fully fund the MiChoice program (adds \$4 million). In-home health care for seniors.
- SB 267 passed [RC 232: 20 yes (gop), 17 no]. Hammerstrom moved to have the vote passing SB 274 reconsidered. She then had her motion passed for the day.

SB 270 (Johnson)

Department of Environmental Quality budget

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- Kuipers 1A (1 amend) was adopted.
- McManus 1B (2 amends) was adopted.
- BASHAM 1C (1 amend) was withdrawn.
- SB 270 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- BRATER 1 (1 amend) was defeated.
- BRATER 2 (4 amends) was defeated [RC 233: 15 yes (DEMS), 22 no (gop)]. \$50 million for recycling grants, if a waste surcharge bill were to be enacted into law.
- BASHAM 3 (1 amend) was adopted. DEQ would have to annually report to the city of Romulus on the various impacts of the deep-injection well facility.
- BRATER 4 (1 amend) was defeated [RC 234: 15 yes (DEM), 22 no (gop)]. This would remove language which prohibits the Governor from regulating water withdrawals.
- McManus 5 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC].
- SB 270 passed [RC 235: 36 yes, 1 no]. Hammerstrom moved to have the vote passing SB 274 reconsidered. She then had her motion passed for the day.

SB 274 (Johnson)

Department of History, Arts, and Libraries budget

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- George 1A (2 amends) was adopted.
- George 1B (2 amends) was adopted. Take money from Dept. of Technology (digital storage of documents) to be used to keep revenue sharing from being cut.
- CLARKE 1C (2 amends) was defeated.
- CLARKE 1D (4 amends) was withdrawn.
- CLARKE 1E (2 amends) was defeated.
- CLARKE 1F (1 amend) was defeated.
- CLARKE 1G (1 amend) was defeated.
- PRUSI 1H (3 amends) was defeated. General Fund money for book distribution centers.
- PRUSI 1I (1 amend) was adopted. Lapsed funding would be used for book distribution centers.
- SB 274 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- CLARKE 1 (2 amends) was defeated [no RC]. Restore \$486,000 in funding for the Michigan Council of Arts.
- CLARKE 2 (2 amends) was defeated [no RC]. Restore nearly \$1 million in funding for state aid to libraries.
- SB 274 passed [RC 226: 23 yes (gop), 14 no (DEMS)]. Hammerstrom moved to have the vote passing SB 274 reconsidered. She then had her motion passed for the day.

SB 275 (Johnson)

Judiciary budget

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted.
- SB 275 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 275 passed [RC 237: 37 yes, 0 no]. Hammerstrom moved to have the vote passing SB 274 reconsidered. She then had her motion passed for the day.

SB 278 (Johnson)

Department of Natural Resources budget

- Committee 1 (S-1) was adopted.
- George 1A (3 amends) was adopted. Funding for dams on the Kalamazoo River.
- McManus 1B (2 amends) was adopted.
- SB 278 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- PRUSI 1 (1 amend) was defeated [no RC]. This would restore roughly \$700,000 in funding for payments in lieu of taxes made to local communities.
- SB 278 passed [RC 227: 35 yes, 2 no (Cassis, Patterson)]. Hammerstrom moved to have the vote passing SB 274 reconsidered. She then had her motion passed for the day.

FINAL PASSAGE

SB 251 (Brown)

SB 538 (Brown)

<u>SB 251</u> would provide a tax exemption for methane digesters and other thermal decomposing systems used in agricultural operations.

- Committee 1 (S-1) was defeated. (6/9)
- *Brown 2 (S-2) was adopted.*
- SB 251 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 251 passed [RC 224: 23 yes, 14 no]. (6/14)

<u>SB 538</u> would allow a farmer to receive a loan (from the Small Business Pollution Prevention) loan for a pollution prevention project involving the use of agricultural biomass by an energy production system.

- *Brown 1 (S-1) was adopted. (6/9)*
- SB 538 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- SB 538 passed [RC 223: 23 yes, 14 no]. (6/14)

SB 353 (Gilbert)

SB 353 would provide that, in operating and administering the community development block grant program, to the extent allowed by law, the Michigan Strategic Fund would have to require that at least 55% of the community block grant program funds be awarded for projects located in rural areas (counties with a population of 90,000 or less). Currently, the state already allocates 55% of the block grants to rural areas.

- Committee 1 (S-2) was adopted. (6/9)
- SB 353 was moved to 3rd Reading.
- Gilbert 1 (1 amend) was adopted [no RC]. (6/14)
- SB 353 passed [RC 225: 32 yes, 5 no].

THIRD READING

SB 387 (Patterson) SB 393 (OLSHOVE)

JOB TRAINING TAX CREDITS

<u>SB 387</u> would allow an employer with less than 250 full time employees to claim a tax credit for expenses paid for an employee's tuition and fees. The employee would have to meet the following criteria: 1) Have an income of less than \$51,000 if single or \$103,000 if filing jointly. 2) Be at least 24 years old. 3) Be employed by the taxpayer for at least 25 hours. 4) Not be enrolled as a full time student.

The tax credit could equal 10% of the first \$10,000 of eligible expenses paid for courses that lead to a postsecondary degree or that are taken to acquire or improve the employee's job skills. The bill would reduce single business tax revenue by an estimated \$2 million beginning in 2006-07. All of this loss in revenue would affect the General Fund.

- Committee 1 (S-3) was defeated.
- Allen 2 (S-4) was adopted.
- SB 387 was moved to 3rd Reading.

<u>SB 393</u> would allow an individual to claim a tax credit for expenses paid for tuition and fees. The taxpayer would have to meet the following criteria: 1) Have an income of less than \$51,000 if single or \$103,000 if filing jointly. 2) Be at least 24 years old. 3) Be employed by the taxpayer for at least 25 hours. 4) Not be enrolled as a full time student. The bill would reduce income tax revenue by an estimated \$8 million beginning in 2006-07. All of this loss in revenue would affect the General Fund.

- Committee 1 (S-3) was adopted.
- SB 393 was moved to 3rd Reading.

HB 4444 (Pavlov)

HB 4444 would add definitions for "gardening" and "seawall maintenance" (as used in SB 282) and make other technical amendments.

• HB 4444 was moved to 3rd Reading. No amendments.